



KENT COUNTY
AGRICULTURAL PROFILE

Kent County is located on the Northern Eastern Shore. Kent County's land area of 178,843 acres contains 117,526 acres of cropland or 66 percent of the total. The topography is generally flat, although some short but steep slopes exist.

In 1990 Kent County had a population of 17,842 with 4,005 residing in the county seat of Chestertown. Chestertown and Kent County are noted for historical homes, especially the colonial era. The only battlefield in Kent County is Caulk's Field (War of 1812) a point of interest near McClean's Corner commemorated with a monument.

Kent County has very important and diverse agriculture with corn, soybeans, small grains and dairy being the leading commodities. Kent county ranks fourth in production of corn; third for soybeans; and fifth, for wheat.

KENT AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

Crop	Year	Unit	Acreage Harvested	Average Yield	Total Production
Corn for Grain	1997	Bu.	39,500	65.5	2,588,000
	1998		33,800	119.1	4,027,100
	1999		33,700	90.7	3,056,400
Corn for Silage	1997	Tons.	5,500	12.7	69,600
	1998		1,700	14.3	24,300
	1999		6,200	17.0	105,400
Soybeans	1997	Bu.	36,000	26.2	941,500
	1998		35,400	39.5	1,400,000
	1999		36,100	32.1	1,157,400
Wheat	1997	Bu.	16,000	76.3	1,221,000
	1998		17,000	51.2	871,000
	1999		15,600	65.0	1,014,000
Hay	1997	Tons.	3,200	3.9	12,500
	1998		3,300	3.8	12,700
	1999		3,600	2.3	8,200
Barley	1997	Bu.	2,400	89.2	217,000
	1998		2,900	72.1	209,000
	1999		3,000	92.0	276,000

Crop Production
Rank among MD. Counties, 1999

Corn	4	Oats	3
Wheat	5	Barley	9
Hay	13	Soybeans	6

Livestock Inventories
Rank among MD. Counties, 1997 ¹

Cattle	9
Hogs	2
Sheep	9
Milk Production	7 ⁵

KENT AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

Farm Numbers & Size ¹		1987	1992	1997
Number of Farms		361	318	314
Average Size (acres)		370	413	374
Land in Farms (acres)		133,597	131,283	117,526

Livestock (Number on Farms) ¹		1987	1992	1997
Cattle Inventory	Jan. 1	9,546	7,249	8,388
Hog Inventory	Dec. 1	²	8,599	²
Sheep Inventory	Jan. 1	651	736	769

Average Number of Milk Cows		1997	1998	1999
		4,100	4,200	4,100

Milk Production - 1,000 lbs.		1997	1998	1999
		53,000	54,000	54,000

Value of Sales ¹		1987	1992	1997
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	----- Thousand Dollars -----			
All Products		43,528	54,479	60,957
Crops		20,200	34,229	34,020
Livestock, Poultry and Poultry Products		23,328	20,250	26,937

¹ Source: Census of Agriculture, NASS.
² Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.
³ Unranked - Data not published.
⁴ Revised.
⁵ 1999.
* Acreage too small to publish .

MONTHLY WEATHER DATA - 1999

MONTH	AVERAGE TEMP. (F)	NORMAL 1961-1990	TOTAL RAINFALL (INCHES)	NORMAL 1961-1990
January	36.8	32.1	4.84	3.18
February	38.0	34.7	3.46	3.06
March	42.9	43.9	4.03	3.65
April	54.4	53.4	2.43	3.24
May	65.1	63.6	1.12	4.03
June	72.8	72.5	3.41	4.35
July	80.2	76.8	4.06	3.70
August	76.7	75.6	4.04	3.96
September	69.3	68.9	18.09	3.64
October	55.6	57.5	3.14	3.14
November	51.2	47.4	2.15	3.39
December	39.4	37.0	2.46	3.77
Annual	56.9	55.3	53.23	43.11

Number frost free days for 1999	223
Normal frost free days 1951-1980	208 <i>(1961-1990 Not available)</i>
Highest temperature 07-05-99	101
Lowest temperature 01-06-99	11

MD Agricultural Statistics Service
50 Harry S Truman Parkway
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
Phone: (410) 841-5740
Fax #: (410) 841-5755
E-Mail: nass-md@nass.usda.gov
Home Page: <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>

Kent County Extension Service
709 Morgnec Road Suite 202
Chestertown, Maryland 21620
Phone: (410) 778-1661
Fax #: (410) 778-9075

Compiled by the Maryland Cooperative Extension Service
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